

14

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

CHICKASAW

Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

BETHLEHEM CHURCH,

TIPPAH COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

On the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th days of Sept., 1852.

MEMPHIS:

**EAGLE & ENQUIRER STEAM PRINTING HOUSE, 14 FRONT ROW.
1852.**

ORDAINED MINISTERS

IN THE BOUNDS OF THE CHICKASAW ASSOCIATION.

NAMES.	POST OFFICE.	NAMES.	POST OFFICE.
M. Ball,	Cherry Creek,	L. Ball;	Cherry Creek,
Wm. H. Halcomb,	Ripley,	J. Boswell,	Tardyville,
Wm. Hale,	Rocky Ford,	C. C. Malone,	Yellow Creek,
J. S. Morton,	Orizaba,	H. G. Spencer,	Salem,
J. H. Prescott,	Shelby's Creek,	P. H. Roberts,	Carrollsville,
A. Goodwin,	Ripley,	A. H. Booth,	Rienzi,
W. E. Rogers,	Dumas,	W. Young,	Pontotoc,
R. Nutt,	Salem,	W. J. Thomas,	Salem,
L. W. Bailey,	Cornersville,	J. C. Derryberry,	Bone Yard,
H. Thompson.	New Albany,	A. Ray,	Jonesborough,
J. J. Andrews,	Cherry Creek,		

Licentiates.

F. Hooker,	Poplar Spring,	S. Paser,	Yellow Creek,
L. Barns,	Dry Run,	J. T. Pitts,	Cherry Creek,
R. G. Tuttle,	Ripley,	A. Butler,	Bone Yard,
Wilkins,	Carrollsville,	D. Potter,	Tardyville,
Lipford,	Salem,		

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE CHICKASAW ASSOCIATION.

J. H. BERRY,
ELIJAH SMITH,
SIMON R. SPIGHT;

G. V. GAMBELL,
JNO. BOATNER,

TIME OF MEETING,

Of the different Religious bodies, with whom we Correspond.

Bear Creek Association—Friday before the fourth Sabbath in September.
 Panola Association—Saturday before the first Sabbath in October.
 Big Hatchie Association—Friday before the third Sabbath in July.
 Cold Water Association—Friday before the third Sabbath in October.
 North River Association—Friday before the fourth Sabbath in Sept.
 Aberdeen Association—Thursday before the first Sabbath in October.
 Baptist State Convention—Thursday before the second Sabbath in Nov.

The next Annual Meeting of the Chickasaw Baptist Association
 Will be held with the Cherry Creek Church, Pontotoc County,
 commencing Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1853.

MINUTES.

RIENZI CHURCH, MISS., SEPT. 17TH, 1852.

The delegates composing the Chickasaw Association, assembled with the Rienzi Church on Friday before the 3d Lord's Day in September, 1852.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder Lewis Ball, from the 14th Chapter of Romans, 17th verse, "For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

The Association was then called to order by the former Moderator, Elder M. Ball, assisted by the former Clerk.

Appointed W. E. Rogers and Lewis Ball reading Clerks.

The letters from the several churches were then called for, in their regular order, read and the names of delegates enrolled. (See Table.)

Petitionary letters were then called for, and petitions received from the following churches praying admittance into this body. First, the letter from Osburn's Creek was read, received and the hand of fellowship extended to their delegates. Second, the letter from Pleasant Hill was read, received and the hand of fellowship extended to their delegates. The letter from Lebanon was read, received and the hand of fellowship extended to their delegates.

The Association then proceeded to elect by ballot, a Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Elder M. Ball, Moderator, and W. J. Riddle Clerk, and by motion S. R. Spight, was appointed Assistant Clerk.

Appointed a committee on preaching, consisting of the following brethren: J. Boatner, J. Hill, R. H. Gibson, Jesse Booth, H. C. Jones, with the deacons of this church.

Appointed a committee to arrange the business to come before this body, viz: Wm. Hale, W. H. Halcomb, A. Ray, B. Jackson, J. Hix, and by motion the Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk were added.

Appointed a Committee on Finance, viz: L. Ball, W. J. Thomas and Wm. P. Lowry.

Appointed a Committee on Documents, viz: N. Harbin, J. J. Andrews and W. E. Rogers.

Correspondence was then called for, and Elder E. Smith, W. M. Fuque and J. J. Cann were received as messengers from the Aberdeen Association, and Elders E. Smith, W. H. Halcomb and E. Smith were received as correspondents from the State Convention, and T. H. Smith were received as a correspondent from the Cold Water Association; a package of minutes was received from the Panola Association; also a package of minutes was received from the Big Hatchie Association.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder J. S. Morton.

SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT., 18th.

The Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder A. Ray.

The report of the committee of arrangements was called for, the report received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

Read rules of decorum.

Correspondence was again called for, and Elder H. H. Tucker and J. G. W. Mallett, were received from the Aberdeen Association.

Appointed correspondence to the following religious bodies.

To the Panola Association, Wm. Hale, J. Boatner, N. L. Ward and M. Johnson.

To the Big Hatchie Association, P. H. Roberts, A. Ray, Wm. J. Thomas, C. C. Malone and S. R. Spight.

To the Cold water Association, Wm. Hale, A. Ray, Wm. J. Thomas, Wm. Young and E. Smith.

To the North River Association, J. J. Andrews and Joel Johnson.

To the Aberdeen Association, P. H. Roberts and W. E. Rogers.

To the State Convention, W. E. Rogers and M. Ball.

To the Bear Creek Association, J. J. Andrews, B. Jackson, H. C. Jones and P. H. Roberts.

Appointed a committee to write corresponding letters, viz:

J. F. Berry, L. Ball, Wm. Young, W. H. Halcomb and C. C. Malone.

Resolved, That any member of this Association, who may be at the meeting of any religious body of our denomination, by presenting a copy of our minutes may become a messenger of this body.

Appointed a committee of three to nominate some person to preach the next Introductory sermon, viz: R. H. Boon, J. Boatner and E. Hill.

CALLLED FOR REPORTS.

The report from the Union Meeting of the first district was received, also reports from the second and third districts were received.

Appointed a committee of three to whom the reports from the Union Meetings be referred, to say how much of said reports should appear on our minutes; viz: S. R. Spight J. O. Nelson and N. Harbin.

By motion brother D. R. Wimpey was received as a correspondent from the Bear Creek Association.

Resolved, That this body recommend the formation of an Educational Society.

A collection was then taken up for the benefit of brother L. W. Stephens who is now a beneficiary at Mercer University, Geo., amounting to \$32.95. Adjourned to 3 o'clock. Prayer by the Moderator.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on documents made their report which was received and adopted and Committee discharged. See Appendix No.

By motion it was Resolved that the Report of the committee of the State Convention, on the colored population be spread upon our minutes. See Appendix No 1.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. *Resolved*, That we dispense with the practice of Recording our minutes in a book, and that the clerk be required to file one of the printed copies annually.

2. *Resolved*, That the constitution, rules of decorum and abstracts of principles be spread upon the minutes.

By motion the Association adjourned until Monday morning 9 o'clock, prayer by Elder H. H. Tucker.

SUNDAY MORNING, Sept. 19.

At a very early hour this morning there was a very large and respectable congregation assembled at the stand, which was occupied in the following order, at 9 o'clock by Elder A. Ray, at 11 by Elder H. H. Tucker, at 3 by Elder W. H. Halcomb, and at candlelight by Elder M. Ball; after the 11 o'clock services a collection was taken up for Foreign and Domestic missions amounting to \$36,80.

MONDAY MORNING, Sept. 20th.

The Association met according to adjournment, Prayer by Elder C. C. Malone.

Called for Reports: The report of Elijah Smith, Treasurer, was received, read and approved. See Appendix No 2.

By motion, the list of subscription taken by Elder M. Ball, as Missionary, was ordered to be spread upon the minutes.— See Appendix No. 3.

The report of the Committee to nominate a preacher to preach the next Introductory Sermon recommended W. H. Halcomb to preach the next Introductory Sermon, and A. H. Booth his alternate, which was approved, and Committee discharged.

The Executive Board made their report, which was approved, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, together with the report of Elder M. Ball, to said Board. See Appendix No. 4 and 5.

The report of the Committee on union meeting reports, was received and approved. See Appendix No. 6.

The Association elected by ballot the following Trustees of the Mary Washington College, viz: W. H. Halcomb, W. J. Riddle, Elijah Smith, Esq., Benj. Collins, Stephen Threlkeld, Nathl. Harben, Cullen Curlee, Ambrose Ray, Simon R. Spight, and H. G. Spencer.

RESOLUTIONS.

1st. *Resolved*, That the Constitution of the Educational Society be appended to these minutes. See Appendix No. 7.

2. *Resolved*, That the same Executive Board be reappointed by acclamation, viz. J. H. Berry, E. Smith, S. R. Spight, J. Boatner and G. V. Gambrel.

3. *Resolved*, That the Circular of the Mary Washington College, be appended to these minutes.

4. *Resolved*, That any member of this body who may leave without permission, be marked absent.

5. Whereas it has been the will of God to remove by death our much esteemed brother, Elder Levi Boden, from amongst us, and from his earthly labors to receive his reward in Heaven,—a due regard for his memory and the condolence of the members of his family, seem to justify the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, 1st. That in the death of brother Boden, the Baptist denomination has suffered a loss, we all mourn, but not as those without hope, for we have reason to believe his spirit is now happy in the presence of God, whom while on earth he took so much delight in serving.

Resolved, 2. That we sincerely sympathise with his family and especially sister Boden in her bereavment.

Resolved, 3. That the clerk furnish sister Boden, with a copy of this preamble and resolutions.

6. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body are due and heartily tendered to the good brethren and friends of Rienzi and vicinity, for their very kind reception and hospitable entertainment of this Association during its present session.

7. *Resolved*, That the clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and that he receive ten dollars for his services.

8. *Resolved*. That Elder M. Ball, be appointed to distribute the minutes in the 1st District, and that Elder A. H. Booth, distribute the minutes in the 3d District.

After a few feeling remarks by the moderator, a parting hymn was sung and Prayer by Elder W. H. Halcomb. The Association adjourned to meet with the Cherry Creek Church, Pontotoc County, Friday before the 3d Lord's day in September, 1853.

MARTIN BALL, Mod.

W. J. RIDDLE, Clerk.

The Committee on Documents, submits the following report. After carefully examining all the documents placed in their hands, would respectfully call the attention of this body to page 18th, of the minutes of the Baptis State Convention, on the *Spiritual welfare of the colored population*, as worthy the action of this body.

The committee would further state, that they approve the Circular of the Mary Washington College, all of which is respectfully submitted,

NATHL. HARBIN, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

ELIJAH SMITH, in account with the Chickasaw Association,
1852.

1851—Sept. 20—	Debtor as per last report,		\$219 00	
1852—April 11—	Received of L. B. Conn, on old subscriptions,		50	
May 22—	Jas. Boswell, books sold,		4 65	
Sept. 8—	T. J. Hodges, on old subscriptions,		2 00	
" 17—	J. H. Berry, Books sold,		1 85	
" "	S. R. Spight, " "		27 65	
" "	M. Ball, on sale of Books and on old subscription and cash collected,		382 50	
" "	One half public collection on Sabbath,		18 40	\$656 55
FOR STATE CONVENTION.				
1852—Sept. 20—	Received from Bulah Church,		50	
" "	1-4 Public collection,		9 20	
" "	Academy Church,		2 15	
" "	Hopewell, "		50	
FOR FOREIGN MISSION.				
" "	J. H. Berry,		4 75	
" "	Mt. Zion Church,		1 25	
" "	Hopewell, "		1 70	
" "	Bulah, "		1 20	
INDIAN MISSION.				
" "	1-4 public collection on Sabbath,		9 20	
" "	Bulah, "		50	
" "	Bible cause,		1 00	31 95
CREDITS.				
1852—April 17—	Paid as per order of the Board,			
Sept. 17—	J. H. Berry expenses, Books,		219 27	688 50
" "	L. W. Bailey,		4 65	
" "	M. Ball as Missionary,		18 00	
" "	C. C. Malone "		157 50	
Balance now in the Treasury,			9 00	408 42
				280 18

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ELIJAH SMITH, Treasurer.

APPENDIX III.

Table showing the amount subscribed by each Church for the following benevolent objects.

Churches.	Cash for Domestic Missions.	Subscription for Domestic Missions.	Cash for Foreign Missions.	Cash for State Conventions.	Cash for Indian Mission.	Bible cause.
Antioch,	\$7 00	\$4 00				
Amaziah,	4 75	4 00				
Academy,	3 20		\$4 70	\$3 00	\$2 15	
Bethlehem,	4 90	3 00				\$1 00
Canaan,	1 00	24 25				
Unich,	5 75					
Piney Grove,	3 75					
Bethel,	3 75	1 75				
Macedonia,	3 55	4 00				
Cypress Creek,	4 05					
Fellowship,	5 75	3 75				
Philadelphia,	6 00	2 25				
Farmington,	2 25	4 10				
Yellow Creek,	50	7 50				
Rienzie,	8 40					
Friendship,	16 50	4 50				
Mt. Olive,	25					
Oakhill,	6 35	9 25				
Liberty,	2 45	9 35				
Hopewell,	1 00	15 35	50			
Salem,	12 60	4 75				
Mt. Zion,	2 20	7 75	1 25			
Hickory Grove,	2 00	9 50				
Pleasant Ridge,	80	25 95				
Cherry Creek,	30 00	20 50				
Poplar Spring,	2 65					
Pleasant Valley,	2 05					
Bulah,	1 20		1 20	50	50	

APPENDIX IV.

The Executive Board beg leave to Report,

That although the fruits of their labor do not appear so abundant, as in the preceeding year; yet they feel deeply thankful to the giver of all good, that their humble efforts have been crowned with at least some success.

In conducting our missionary operations, we had the pleasure to secure the services of our esteemed brother M. Ball, 105 days, bro. C. C. Malone 9 days, bro. L. W. Bailey 18 days, and brother W. E. Rogers 6 or 7 days. It is but just to remark, that the last named missionary generously declined accepting pay for his services, and all of them discharged their duty entirely, satisfactory to the Board. For a more full account of bro. Ball's labors, we beg leave to refer you to his report, herewith transmitted.

320 Bibles and Testaments, and 194 religious books, have been donated and sold, during the last associational year.—A number of religious tracts have also been distributed, *gratis*, and 4 copies of the encyclopedia of religious knowledge, have been given to the same number of ministers in our bounds.

The whole number of Bibles and Testaments, including about 300 religious books, which have been distributed since this interesting department of our operations have been established, is 1560 copies. Your board do not doubt that so many pages of sacred light and so many well established religious truths, cannot but exert a powerful influence upon the hearts and minds of the community in which they circulate. It is scarcely less true that the potter has power over the clay, than that the press has power to mould the characters of men. How important then, that this mighty moral engine, should be used in disseminating the great truths revealed in God's holy word. How important in view of charity, that the knowledge of Jesus Christ, and the way of salvation should have pre-eminence, of the literature of the age, and of the world. Then let the Bible, that book of books, find its way into the cottages of the poor, and into the mansions of the rich, and let *all* be invited to drink at this pure fountain of light and truth. Then under the blessing of God will your sons be as "trees of Lebanon," and your "daughters be polished as corner stones after the similitude of palaces," and after you shall have been called to your final account, *like Abel, though dead you will yet speak.*

We therefore most earnestly commend, this branch of our operations, to your future board, and trust it will be sustained by your prayers and contributions.

The amount of funds now on hand is 280.18. For further particulars, we refer you to the treasurer's report.

During the last six years your board have uniformly determined never to desert from this plain, simple rule, viz: *to work within our means.* Consequently we have never heretofore been able to keep a missionary employed the whole of his time. From the present condition of the treasury however, we think a missionary may be kept in the field during the ensuing year.

We now, dear brethren, return to you the responsible trust reposed in us. And may the great head of the church, guide and direct you in all your efforts, to advance his cause, and to extend the Redeemer's kingdom upon earth.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOEL H. BERRY,
Chairman.

APPENDIX V.

To the Board of the Chickasaw Association:

DEAR BRETHREN:—In making out my report to you I am truly sorry that I have done so little. I have visited nearly all the churches, but on the account of the heavy grain crop and the general declension in the churches many of them failed to meet me while others manifested as much or more liberality than heretofore; I have traveled and preached one hundred and five days; I have been able to do but little in carrying on protracted meetings; at Canaan church however the Lord abundantly blest us with the out pouring of the holy spirit; the little vine that has been so long in the wilderness, and almost extinct, has been made to blossom as the rose, and flourish like the vine planted by the river side, and many valuable accessions have been made to the church and no doubt many more will be made. This church now will be able to sustain the gospel ministry without any aid, thus you see our laboring have been blest in the salvation of many souls. I have sold books to the amount of \$154.85, and have collected from old subscription \$60.90 cents, and collected in cash \$171.85, and on new subscription \$170.00.

I have visited New Harmony church two or three times, which is entirely without a supply or pastor. They certainly need help. The large congregations that attended all my appointments through at a busy season of the year made me believe that much good might be done by an efficient minister being sent there. In conclusion, although I have heretofore endeavored to bring to your notice the great importance of employing a missionary all the time in the bounds of our association, which from some cause or other has not met your approbation, I again present the subject to you and recom-

mend you to present the same to the association, while in session, for their consideration. Dear brethren, while we only employ men that are tied down to four churches and only have the week to visit the churches, and present the claims of the destitute, I assure you but little can be done, and comparatively nothing in the destitute portions of our bounds; I am made to believe that a missionary employed all the time would be sustained by the churches and whose labors in my opinion would be abundantly blest, the fruits of which would only be known in the morning of eternity.

M. BALL.

APPENDIX VI.

We, your committee, to whom was referred the reports of the union meetings, beg leave to say that having examined said reports deem it unnecessary to publish any thing except the following:

From the meeting of the first district which was held with the Friendship Church, Pontotoc county, Miss.:

1st. *Resolved*, That the next meeting of this body be held with the Pleasant Ridge Church, commencing Thursday before the 1st Sabbath in August, 1853, and Elder M. Ball to preach the introductory sermon.

Appointed the next association to be held with the Cherry Creek Church, Pontotoc County, Miss., commencing Friday before the 3d Lord's day in Sept., 1853.

Appointed Elder Wm. Hale to preach a sermon appropriate to Ministers and Deacons, and Elder James Boswell his Alternate.

The following queries were inserted for discussion at our next meeting:

1st. Should a minister who says there is no such a thing as a call to the ministry be invited into the pulpit to preach.

2d. What course should a church pursue with a deacon who refuses repeatedly to attend her communion seasons.

3d. What course should be pursued with a deacon who by neglect of duty or refusal fails to attend to the necessities of his minister.

4th. How long was it from the conversion of Paul until he went up to Jerusalem. 390-410-200-

5th. Were the disciples, Paul found at Ephesus rebaptised.

6th. Was the baptism Peter preached on the day of Pentecost water baptism of water, or the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

7th. Which was it, the man or the spirit seeking rest Mathew 12th chapter and 43d verse, when the unclean spirit is gone out of a man he walketh through dry places seeking rest, and findeth none.

UNION MEETING 2d DISTRICT.

HELD WITH THE SALEM CHURCH, TIPPAAH COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

1st. Appointed the next meeting of this body to be held with union church, Tippah county, commencing on Thursday before the 2d. Sabbath in August 1853.

2d. Appointed Wm. J. Thomas, to preach the next Introductory sermon, and J. H. Prescott, his alternate.

UNION MEETING OF 3d DISTRICT.

HELD WITH THE MOUNT ZION CHURCH, TISHAMINGO COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

1st. Appointed the next meeting of this body to be held with the Farmington church, Tishamingo County, commencing Thursday before the 3d Lord's day in August 1853.

2d. Appointed Elder C. C. Malone to preach the next Introductory sermon and Elder P. Skelly, his alternate. Elder A. H. Booth to preach a sermon appropriate to ministers and deacons, and Elder J. J. Andrews his alternate.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. R. SPIGHT, Clerk.



CONSTITUTION OF EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

RIENZI, MISS., SEPT. 20TH, 1852.

Sundry brethren met at the Baptist Church for the purpose of organizing a Ministerial Educational Society.

On motion of J. H. Berry, R. H. Boone was called to the chair and S. R. Spight requested to act as secretary.

The object of the meeting was explained by the chairman, and the following Constitution was offered by J. H. Berry, and unanimously adopted.

ARTICLE 1st. The name of this Society shall be called The Ministerial Educational Society.

ART. 2d. The object of this society shall be to aid young ministers in the bounds of this association in acquiring an education. The beneficiaries in all cases to be selected and approved by this society.

ART. 3d. The officers of this society shall consist of a President, Vice President, and a Secretary, the Secretary to be Treasurer of the society, all to be elected annually.

ART. 4th. Any person may become a member of this society by contributing the——sum, and shall remain a member as long as he makes an annual contribution to its funds.

ART. 5th. This society shall hold an annual meeting during each session of the Chickasaw Association.

ART. 6th. This constitution may be altered or amended by a majority of two thirds of the members present.

ART. 7th. Sundry persons came forward and enrolled their names as members of said society by subscribing various amounts to be paid at the next meeting of this society.

ART. 8th. On motion Elder Ambrose Ray was elected President by acclamation and Elder W. H. Halcomb, Vice President, and Simon R. Spight, Secretary and Treasurer. The society then adjourned to meet at Cherry Creek, Pontotoc county, Miss., Monday after the third Sabbath in Sept. 1853.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1st.—This Association shall be called the “CHICKASAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.”

ART. 2d. It shall be composed of persons who have been duly elected delegates by the respective churches belonging to this union.

ART. 3d. The delegates representing the different churches shall at the opening of the Association, present the letters specifying their appointment, and also showing the number baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored, and dead, during the year, together with the whole number in fellowship.

ART. 4th. Every church belonging to this body, shall be entitled to three delegates until they number 100 members, and then one for each hundred above that number.

ART. 5th. Churches of this Union failing to represent themselves at one association, will be expected to state the reason of their failure at the next, and if any church fail for three successive meetings, the association may consider such church as dropped from its number, or shall have power to send a committee to inquire into its state, or proceed as the association may deem most advisable.

ART. 6th. New churches may be admitted into this union by signifying their wish by letter and delegates, provided they be deemed orthodox, and are willing to walk in fellowship with us.

ART. 7th. The association shall have a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen at each annual meeting so soon as letters from the churches are read, and members names enrolled; PROVIDED, however, that nothing in this article be so construed as to prohibit churches petitioning for union with us, from voting by their delegates for moderator and clerk.

ART. 8th. This association shall have no power to adopt rules that shall at any time infringe upon the independence and rights of churches; it shall however, be at liberty to advise churches belonging to it, or it may withdraw from such churches as are known to walk disorderly.

ART. 9th. The association shall have a fund for its expenses, and the churches shall be at liberty to send up such funds as they may think proper, either for foreign or domestic missions, for the bible or any other benevolent institution, and the association appoint one or more, to take charge of the same, and forward them as they may be designated, and report to the next association.

ART. 10th. Any church of this union having a difficulty that she cannot settle, may call help from other churches, or may present the case to this body for advice; such cases must be presented in the letter of correspondence, stating the reasons why it has not, or could not be decided by the church.

ART. 11th. When churches of this union have members supposed to possess ministerial gifts, “we recommend them to” call from two or more churches for the aid of their ministers and such other members as the churches may deem most suitable to examine the individuals, and if thought advisable, to authorise such a member or members to preach the gospel—which shall be reported to the association, and entered on the minutes.

ART. 12th. Any church having a gift she deems worthy of Ordination, shall call a Presbytery of ministers from sister churches to officiate in the work; and all Presbyteries in the ordination of ministers and deacons, or in constituting churches, shall be governed by the abstract of principles of this association.

ART. 13th. This association may correspond by letter and delegates, with the Baptist Convention of this State, and with such associations as she may deem most conducive to the general interest of Zion.

ART. 14th. The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected, and signed by the moderator and clerk before the session rises; no association shall adjourn unless in extraordinary cases, until it has finished all its business.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1st. The association shall be opened by prayer.

ART. 2d. The moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the members present by private ballot.

ART. 3d. The moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal, provided that appeal be made on the same day, but at no subsequent time.

ART. 4th. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he arises to speak, he shall call on some brother to take the chair.

ART. 5th. All questions brought before the association, shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded, shall be opened for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion, the moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays, and if a call for a division be made it shall be decided by the members rising.

ART. 6th. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the moderator. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at the same time, who shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or make personal reflections.

ART. 7th. No person shall speak more than once upon any subject until all who wish to speak shall have had an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.

ART. 8th. Every subject introduced for discussion, shall be first decided before another shall be offered, unless it be laid over by motion, with the consent of the mover and association.

ART. 9th. The association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of members present, except in the reception of churches, then a unanimous vote shall be required. "But in no case shall one member or church prevent the reception of a church without sufficient cause shown, which shall be determined by a majority."

ART. 10th. The names of members shall be called whenever the association shall direct, and the absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the moderator.

ART. 11th. The appellation of brother shall be used by the members in addressing each other.

ART. 12th. Any member violating these rules shall be subject to be reprov'd by the moderator, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

ART. 13th. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority may deem it necessary.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. OF THE SCRIPTURES.—We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, Salvation for its end, and Truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

2. OF THE TRUE GOD.—That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is JEHOVAH, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. OF THE FALL OF MAN.—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all man kind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of satan, and of their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

4. OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the SON OF GOD, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death; being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies and all-sufficient Savior.

5. OF JUSTIFICATION.—That the great Gospel blessing which Christ of his fulness bestows on such as believe in Him, is Justification; that Justification consists in the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through his own redemption and righteousness;